

March 25, 2013

In Support of Bill # 6672, Section 8

My name is Joel Abramson and I am Vice president of Southbury Elderly Housing, Inc. and Pomperaug Senior Housing, Inc.

Together, these entities own the Southbury, CT complex known as Grace Meadows, located at the corner of North Poverty Road and Route 67.

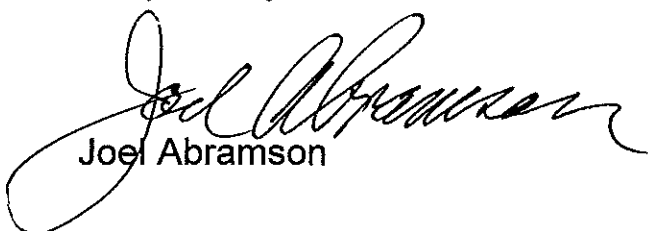
Grace Meadows is a not for profit entity, the mission of which is to provide affordable housing for the elderly. For our purposes elderly is defined as age 62 or over. We also accept younger handicapped adults. Southbury Elderly Housing owns 48 units and receives funding from USDA Rural Development. Pomperaug Senior Housing owns 40 units and receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The land we are on is owned by the Town of Southbury and is leased to us at extremely favorable terms. Throughout our existence the town has been unfailingly supportive of our mission.

Grace Meadows started operations in 1985. We have no room for expansion. Our waiting list is continually updated and culled. The wait time is numerous years long, meaning that for many applicants over 62 it is virtually hopeless, and in truth, heart-rending. Our need to expand is critical.

The parcel of land mentioned in Bill # 6672 is part of the Southbury Training School property, which parcel we understand will one day become available. It is about 45 acres in size, of which 23 are unimproved. Located on the east side of State Route 172, it has access to water, gas and electricity. Our understanding is that the Training School is closing the area to further housing of its staff. It would be ideal for our purposes.

Our hope is that the property can be deeded over to the Town, which would then make it available to Grace Meadows for our desperately needed expansion. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


Joel Abramson

Spoken
3/25/13